

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

25X1

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 26 April 1955

SUBJECT Railroad Activities

NO. OF PAGES 4

25X1

PLACE
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF
INFO.SUPPLEMENT
REPORT NO.

25X1

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES. WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U. S. CODE, AS AMENDED, ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

25X1

railroad activities between 19 and 30 January 1955 25X1

25X1.

CLASSIFICATION

S-E-C-R-E-T

STATE	NAVY	NSRB	DISTRIBUTION							
ARMY	AIR	FBI								

25X1

~~SECRET~~

25X1

-2-

RBD	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<u>a. Number of Freight Trains Handled:</u>												
Berlin	849	886	846	870	852	857	883	873	881	873	898	897
Greifswald	403	397	408	400	372	401	404	398	396	403	403	381
Schwerin	423	426	430	420	380	414	418	427	380	421	422	398
Magdeburg	1,196	1,268	1,199	1,164	1,118	1,147	1,159	1,185	1,165	1,173	1,179	1,144
Halle	1,535	1,541	1,558	1,546	1,480	1,519	1,527	1,547	1,544	1,561	1,578	1,496
Erfurt	947	946	940	935	911	937	944	932	947	942	953	909
Dresden	2,099	2,099	2,124	2,104	2,012	2,078	2,101	2,092	2,127	2,135	2,139	2,012
Cottbus	1,114	1,105	1,118	1,102	1,121	1,012	1,151	1,108	1,139	1,150	1,132	1,103
Total	8,566	8,668	8,623	8,541	8,246	8,365	8,587	8,562	8,579	8,658	8,704	8,340
<u>b. Number of Soviet Interest Shipments:</u>												
Berlin	2	-	3	8	3	1	2	5	4	4	9	6
Greifswald	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	1	1	-	1	2
Schwerin	-	9	2	-	1	1	1	8	9	2	5	-
Magdeburg	6	6	-	-	-	6	-	10	2	5	13	9
Halle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erfurt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-
Dresden	2	-	1	1	1	2	-	2	1	-	3	1
Cottbus	-	1	2	1	3	4	-	5	5	-	3	-
Total	10	16	8	11	8	14	6	31	22	14	35	18
<u>c. Number of Major Train Delays:</u>												
Berlin	3	3	1	2	1	3	1	2	-	2	3	3
Greifswald	-	2	2	-	2	2	-	1	-	-	2	-
Schwerin	4	4	3	4	-	4	4	2	2	2	3	-
Magdeburg	2	2	6	7	8	6	4	8	8	3	2	3
Halle	11	10	6	7	6	5	5	7	6	5	5	4
Erfurt	15	14	16	9	5	8	9	8	8	9	5	9
Dresden	5	5	6	2	2	7	3	5	4	3	1	3
Cottbus	3	4	2	5	6	4	6	5	4	3	3	10
Total	43	44	42	36	30	39	32	38	32	27	24	32

~~SECRET~~

-3-

25X1

2. The daily quota fixed for the loading of freight cars in 1954 was 31,265 cars including 10,965 for coal and coke. Actually, only 30,725 cars were, however, loaded per day, of which 10,493 units were loaded with coal and coke. This represents 98.3 percent of the planned loadings. 2

3. [redacted] information on special trains running in connection with the Leipzig Spring Fair from 25 February to 10 March 1955 [redacted]

25X1

25X1

25X1

In view of the international importance of the Leipzig Fairs, it is absolutely imperative that all special fair trains to and from Leipzig operate on schedule. Fair trains operating within the GDR will be marked P LM and Lp LM; fair trains operating to and from West Germany and foreign countries will be designated DLS and PLS. DLS and PLS trains will be handled like express trains. PLM trains will have priority over passenger trains except for commuter trains used by workers. LpLM trains will be given priority only when proceeding to the railroad station from which they are scheduled to operate. The entire traffic with special fair trains will be controlled by Odl Halle (S). A special railroad office for the maintenance of liaison with the Leipzig Fair Headquarters will be established at the Leipzig Main Railroad Station. The method of train signalling will be used for all special trains employed in connection with the Leipzig Fair. All these trains will be marked by sign boards lettered "Lesse Sonderzug PLM No. from to"

[redacted] special directives would be issued for the handling of freight traffic during the Leipzig Spring Fair. 3

25X1

4. [redacted] the following numbers of freightcars were available in the GDR on 31 December 1954:

25X1

boxcars including refrigerator cars	39,046
gondola cars	63,567
flatcars	24,275
miscellaneous cars	2,768
tank cars	12,564
<hr/>	
Total	142,220
<hr/>	
under repair	10,024 cars
in reserve	1,978 cars

4

5. The Flying Hamburg Express is to increase its speed considerably. On a trial run made on 14 January 1955, the Diesel engine of this express train broke through the floor and tore up 400 meters of trackage before the train could be stopped. Semper, chief of the Main Administration for Operations contributed the accident to negligence in the exercise of control duties. The accident reportedly took place near Neustadt on the Dosse River. 5

1. [redacted] Comment. The number of freight trains and major train delays reported was normal. The transportation space claimed by the Soviets (interest trains) fluctuates.

25X1

2. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] the following average number of cars was loaded daily between July and September 1954:

25X1

25X1

July	30,022 cars
August	30,758 "
September	31,776 cars.

25X1

3. [redacted] Comment. Similar measures were taken on occasion of the 1954 Leipzig Fall Fair, when 546 special trains were employed for the transportation of East German visitors, 67 special trains for visitors from West Germany, and 6 for foreign visitors. [redacted] The large-scale transportation operations required for the Leipzig Fairs greatly affect the smooth flow of freight traffic in the GDR.

25X1

25X1

SECRET

SECRET

-4-

25X1

4. Comment. the following numbers of freight cars were available in the GDR on 30 November 1954:

25X1

25X1

boxcars	38,920
gondola cars	63,533
flatcars	24,239
miscellaneous cars	2,749
tank cars	12,595

Total	142,036
-------	---------

Of these cars, approximately 9,466 were under repair at any given time.

25X1

5. Comment. Before WW II, the "Fliegender Hamburger" was a very fast Diesel- electric rail coach operating between Hamburg and Berlin. Neustadt on the Elbe River is located on the Berlin-Wittenberge-Hamburg line.

25X1

SECRET